confrontation with his wife, after which he decided to bring her to Toronto. She remained at Dr. Myers's hospital from July 1 till she was admitted to the Asylum on September 29. Dr. Fitzgerald, invoking Krafft-Ebing, referred to her history as one of "psychopathia conjugalis."

The "Conference Report" of January 30, 1908, indicates that the doctors were determined to diagnose Mrs. Brown with paranoia even when the diagnosis did not fit the particulars of her case. They might have decided that Mrs. Brown's mental condition was not paranoia, because it was not characterized by the other features of the disorder, such as a "magnification of the patient's own relative importance," a "conspicuous feeling of well-being," or a "delusional fabric." Instead they decided that hers was an "unusual" case. Their diagnosis is based on a refusal to acknowledge that Mrs. Brown's ideas could have had any basis in fact.

The portion of the "Clinical Record" dated September 20, 1907, is signed by C.K. Clarke. Clarke notices the same reluctance to be explicit about her husband's activities that Fitzgerald had remarked earlier. Clarke's own expression, that she "frankly confessed that her husband as far as she knew had not been guilty of any gross impropriety," suggests that what might only have been an admission of lacking hard evidence or an avoidance of explicitness was taken as a "confession" of mendacity. The language of the diagnosis is anything but neutral; what should interpret the evidence actually creates it.

Apparently Clarke had questioned her very closely indeed about just what she had seen or heard the night of December 31, 1906. He states that she said she had "never seen" her husband actually going to the niece's room, but had heard him "going in that direction." Mrs. Brown's allowing her niece to remain in her house for the rest of the winter because "it was not suitable for her to sail in the rough weather of the winter" is treated as another "confession" (ie, "It came out that ...."). Clarke does not hesitate to "point out" to his patient that he finds such behaviour "inconsistent" (a euphemism for insane?). One might wonder if Clarke would have considered Mrs. Brown more sane if she had been less kind, but it probably would have gone badly for her either way. The tendency of Clarke's diagnosis is to attribute the absence of hard evidence and the presence of apparent inconsistencies to madness.